December 31, 1987

Millbury, Mass.

The Millbury · Sutton CHRONICLE

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Volume 2 No. 40

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OUR COVER

In our continuing attempt to bring something new to our readers, we at the Millbury-Sutton Chronicle welcome Cartoonist/Illustrator Scott Nelson to our list of contributors. From time to time, Scott will be drawing cartoons on local subjects and issues. Scott's cover sketch is of Chairman of the Sutton Board of Selectmen, Wally Johnson (Father Time) and Chairman of the Millbury of Selectmen, Jude Cristo (Baby New year).

Scott, a Millbury resident and 1985 graduate of Millbury Memorial High School, maintains an office at 390 Main Street in Worcester where he does commercial and private illustrations for a growing list of clients.

His talents are much appreciated, and we are sure that our readers will enjoy this entertaining and artistic addition.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

JANUARY 4 - 8

MILLBURY HIGH

MONDAY: Hot Dog on a Roll, French Fries, Baked Beans, Peaches
TUESDAY: Meatball Grinder, French Fries, Corn, Jello/Topping
WEDNESDAY: Baconburger on a Roll, Lettuce & Tomato, French Fries, Fruit
THURSDAY: Hot Roast Beef Sandwich, French Fries, Beets, Ice Cream
FRIDAY: Clam Roll, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Cake

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE

MONDAY: Mini Burgers, French Fries, Carrots, Pudding
TUESDAY: Ham & Cheese Nuggets, Corn on the Cob, Pan Roll/Butter, Pineapple Bites
WEDNESDAY: Juice, Baconburger on a Roll, Lettuce & Tomato, Potato Puffs, Jello/Topping
THURSDAY: Chicken Pot Pie, Peas, Pan Roll, Butter, Ice Cream
FRIDAY: Juice, Pizza, Tossed Salad, Rice Krispie Squares

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Bob Roy Jr., Vice Commander
Membership Chairman
Bob Weidman, Commander
Richard Gauthier, Quartermaster

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1988

HAPPY NEW YEAR

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

MILLBURY...District Nursing Society Blood Pressure Clinic at the Asa Water Mansion, 123 Elm Street, from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

MILLBURY/SUTTON...The Annual Meeting and Installation of officers of the Millbury-Sutton Council of Church Women United will be held at St. Brigid's Church, 59 Main St., Millbury at 1:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

MILLBURY...District Nursing Society Blood Pressure Clinic at the Asa Water Mansion, 123 Elm Street, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

THE MILLBURY SUTTON CHRONICLE
59 Grafton Street, Millbury, MA 01527 Tel: 865-1645

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EDITOR Andree A. Belisle

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THE DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS 12:00 P.M. ON THE SATURDAY OF THE WEEK PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

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Millbury School Committee Report

Committee Divided on "Nature's Classroom" Proposal

By Edward J. Cooney

December 16, 1987

Chairman Hanratty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Minutes were approved with minor corrections.

At the request of Curriculum Coordinator Dr. Troughton, Item 2 on the Agenda was deferred until a representative from Nature's Classroom could be present to discuss programs available at the private school.

- Business Manager Susan Pierce reported on efforts to improve the student transportation services. She stated that a letter was sent to parents informing them of the changes. She also noted that the new policy had been printed in its entirety in the Millbury-Sutton Chronicle and that section by section accounts will be printed in the Millbury Journal.

She also indicated that her office is still asking for volunteers to serve as monitors. "There aren't any takers as yet."

According to Mrs. Pierce, the radios are now in place on the buses and are working well. She noted that at first some drivers were apprehensive but they are now using them when needed. She also reported that on two occasions the radios were used when buses broke down and that a backup was sent immediately.

- At 7:35, Dr. Santos, a representative from Nature's Classroom, gave a brief overview of the environmental programs offered by the private school. He reported that he had already spoken to grades 6 and 7 at the Middle School.

Santos explained that the program is an enrichment environmental educational program designed to develop stronger teacher/student relationships. The program for Millbury students would be held during a school week in April and would involve approximately two-thirds of the students. He indicated that next year the program could be offered in the fall.

Santos emphasized that each child would be insured and that the program would provide food and lodging for participants with a teacher/student ratio of 1-20. While the cost of the program would be absorbed by parents, it was noted that the Mother's Club would assist students with financial need. The cost will depend on which site is chosen, but will be between $140-$160 per student. Santos stated that the two possible sites for the program are located in Colebrook Connecticut and Thompson Island in Boston Harbor. He noted that 2/3 of the program would be academics and would deal directly with the natural sciences.

According to Dr. Troughton, 60-70% of the students expressed an interest in participating in the program this year. Committeeman Edward Wilczynski questioned whether teachers would be required to attend the program. Santos replied that there was a good percentage of teachers (50%) already committed to attend. He also noted that a lower ratio of teachers would be in the school while the others are away.

Wilczynski expressed concern that substitutes might be needed during that week. He also expressed reservations about taking a week out of the school year and stated that those students not going may suffer a disruption in the continuity of their education.

Superintendent Dr. Alfred Sylvia stated that substitutes would not be required and that the remaining teachers would take care of the students who did not attend the program.

Wilczynski also voiced objections to the fact that parents were apprised of the program through a memo from Mr. Rogers and that an orientation had already been held with parents. "The School Committee had no idea what was going on. It's like putting the cart before the horse." Wilczynski added that he thought it more beneficial to strengthen the faculty within the system than to send the students to a private school. "During a school vacation, that's okay," he said.

Santos apologized for the procedures referred to by Wilczynski and noted that more information could be developed by pre-testing students and post testing. He noted that there could be a control group. "If you don't see growth there is a money back guarantee."

Wilczynski replied that he would like to see staff development and bonding with students in the system. "We should improve the system within buildings, not send students out during a 180-day school year. I'm not convinced."

Committee member Patricia Cooney agreed that vacation time should be used for students interested in the program. She also stated that some of Santos' remarks implied that those children not choosing to attend will not have the advantage of learning this material. She suggested that, if the program is approved, there should be a comparable curriculum prepared for those students not attending that week so that all students would be at the same level at the same time and not be academically penalized for choosing not to attend.

Turn to Page 4

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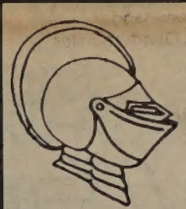
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Dr. Santos stated, "That is one judgement you could make. A major study that studied four major school systems indicated that those students left behind tested lower." Mrs. Cooney replied, "That is what I am concerned about."

Santos continued his remarks stating, "The parents actually make the decision. The students not going would work on remedial work. There isn't much time to get that help during the 180 day school year. Just allow the parents to decide."

Mrs. Cooney stated that it may be a matter of pride for some students and parents to come forward and ask for financial help.

Santos replied that there are payment plans available for a "very proud" individual. "It is a problem. In this case it is a matter of the majority who want to participate when classroom teachers also want to participate. There will be more cognition for this group who wish to go."

Troughton noted that there are six weeks left to make a decision. "If there are doubts, you do not have to vote tonight. You can table it until you have time to get questions answered."

Hanratty stated that he had spoken to some Sutton parents who were in favor of the program. He said he had received a dozen phone calls from parents and that he would support the program. "I don't have a problem with letting parents make the choice for themselves." He noted that he would give others on the committee time to gather more information.

Wilczynski stated that he was not ready to move on approving the request tonight. "Students will be away for the whole week, Monday through Friday. Where will they be sleeping?"

Santos replied that the students would be housed in a three-story brick boarding school. "There would be 2-4 or 6 students to a room. There would be 24 hour supervision with teachers on duty in some corridors in rooms similar to a college dorm set-up. The student would see their teachers in another light, similar to older times when most teachers lived in towns they taught and were viewed differently. They will be able to help and share with each other. I object to using vacation time as teachers would lose their vacation and if you exclude teachers from your system you would not have the same type program. We have a summer program. This program would be more valuable than 5 days of academics at school which might be in contradiction with your opinion. Give people free choice."

Wilczynski replied, "If it is a great thing, then use vacation time or the summer. I don't think we should have this responsibility to have kids away at this age. It may be good for some, but not for others."

Santos replied, "I don't think it should be forced on parents. It may be good for some kids and not for others and we should make sure the child is not infringed upon. Allow parents to make a subjective judgement based upon the information."

Committeeman Bruce Pease stated that he was in favor of giving the people an opportunity to decide.

In reply to a question by Mrs. Cooney regarding the cost for teachers, Santos replied that there would be no charge for teacher participation. He noted that there would be 50% teacher participation during the week with another 50% in and out.

Dr. Troughton noted that he wasn't in favor of teachers going in and out of the program as continuity would be broken. "It probably wouldn't happen." Troughton then suggested that the committee hold up on making an immediate decision and wait for more accurate figures on student and teacher participation, schedules at the Middle School for students and teachers not going, and a tentative program to be offered to students staying at the school during that week. "You will have a better feel for what will be here while the kids are at school."

- Under "Informational Items", Dr. Sylvia noted that the VFW's reply to an inquiry from him with respect to including the recognition of teachers with service awards as part of the VFW Teacher of the Year Awards Dinner was not acceptable to the VFW. He suggested another method be considered similar to the buffet of last year. The Committee concurred and will discuss that possibility at another meeting.

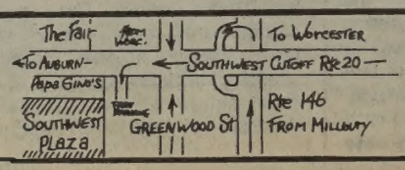
- Mrs. Pierce noted that the dump can no longer take rubbish accumulated by the school system and that she has been looking at locating a dumpster at Elmwood Street which could be used also by the High School and the Middle School. She noted that the dumpster would be emptied once a day at a cost of $240 per month.

Wilczynski suggested that she contact the town hall to see if a cooperative effort could be developed with other town departments.

The committee voted 4-0 to hire Frank's Rubbish Removal to rent a dumpster and bring the refuse to the town landfill.

- Under "Resignations", the committee voted 4-0 to extend a leave from paid to non-paid for Karen Maguire.

Turn to Page 6



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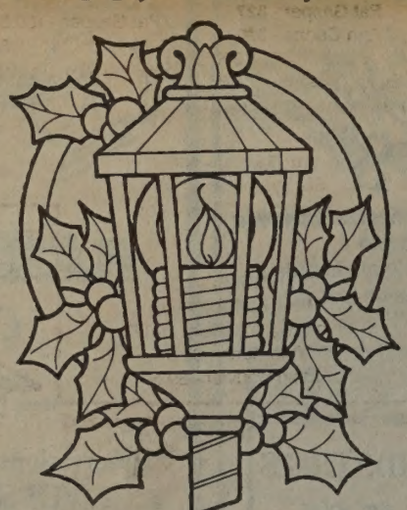

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Sutton Planning Board to Seek Clarification on Pumping Stations vs. Gravity Fed Sewage

By Jim Douglass

SUTTON. The December 21st Planning Board meeting opened with John Ritchie absent and new board member Scott Paul attending his first meeting. Mail was reviewed and the minutes of the December 7th meeting were approved.

William Bernard requested the return of 25K and 35K bonds he had posted to insure the completion of a road servicing his subdivision on Merrill Road. He presented the board with a letter stating that work is finished and that all conditions of approval have been met. The board informed Bernard that the town engineer will assess the finished road and inform the town of his conclusions. If it is determined that the road is satisfactory, the board will send a letter to the town treasurer to release the funds.

On ANR (Approval Not Required) plans:

- McGuire Road and Rawson Road intersection. Bruce Wilson representing Guerriere and Halnon sought approval for three preliminary subdivisions plans. One was approved and two others were deferred until the question of water supply from Whitinsville can be looked into. The board has been laboring over the question of a "zoning footnote" which concerns lots serviced by public utilities. Until a policy can be established, the board is hesitant to grant approval of new lots serviced by utilities.

- Road names on Pine Ridge by Dudley Lane. To facilitate the sale of homes, street names need to be changed from "A" and "B" streets to something more appealing. Following a discussion on the need to avoid "sound-alike" names for ease of police and fire dispatchers, Okemo Ridge Road was suggested as an alternative to Brettonwood Road which was the developer's choice but deemed too similar to the existing Buttonwood Road.

- Shared planner. A vacant post funded by EOCD and serving Upton, Northbridge, Uxbridge, and Sutton was discussed. The failure of a previous search campaign was noted and a determination was made to advertise more aggressively in Boston, Providence and Worcester.

- First Prime Plans. A number of issues were discussed regarding Fist Prime's expected attempt to gain approval of their developments following the initial rejection of two of them. The issue of pumping stations and gravity fed sewage was discussed. The board felt that the sewage commission had made a policy of accepting only gravity fed sewage and yet seemed to be acquiescing to the builder's plans for pump stations.

The board will send a letter to the sewage commission to determine their feelings on the matter and to ask if they still subscribe to their policy of gravity flow lines.

The discussion also covered the future cost and maintenance of pumping stations, and the number of permutations in the sewage lines. The issue of retention basins was also discussed with questions being raised about town ownership, liability, and maintenance and construction of fencing to surround them. The large area and unattractive quality of the retention basin in Pine Ridge was noted as was the larger size of the planned First Prime basin.

Women's Candlepin Bowling League Results

Hope Stockhaus was high bowler this week. She rolled a 315 with strings of 92-106-117. Pat Gaspar rolled a 300 with strings of 97-105-98 for second high. Ann Coons rolled third high, a 292, with strings of 99-95-98.

TEAM STANDINGS	W - L	HIGH SINGLE
Hummingbirds	76 - 36	Becky Rushton - 125
Cardinals	68 - 44	Ann Coons - 123
Nightingales	61 - 51	Pat Gaspar - 123
Cuckoos	49 - 63	Mary Jo Boire - 117
Dodo Birds	48 - 64	Hope Stockhaus - 117
Woodpeckers	34 - 78	

HIGH TRIPLE
Pat Gaspar - 327
Ann Coons - 320
Hope Stockhaus - 320
Becky Rushton - 318

HIGH AVERAGE
Pat Gaspar - 100.5
Becky Rushton - 97.4
Hope Stockhaus - 97.2

TOP TEN BOWLERS

Pat Gaspar - 100.5
Becky Rushton - 97.4
Hope Stockhaus - 97.2
Ann Coons - 94.2
Kathy Marble - 92.1
Joan DeSantis - 91.9
Mary Jo Boire - 90.5
Gail Higginbottom - 90.5
Ann Kach - 90.3
Ellen Bouvier - 89.5

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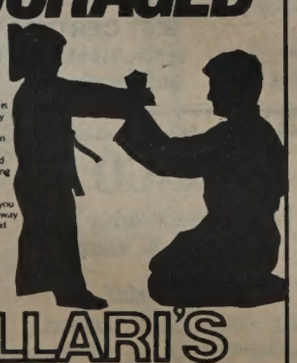

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- Under "Appointments", the committee voted 4-0 to hire Joan McCauley for a half year position to fill in for Joan Burke who will be on sabbatical.

The committee appointed Marguerite Gillette and Jonathan Pride as team leaders at the Elmwood Street School on a 4-0 vote.

The committee approved a sum of $6,100 for updating the computer system at the high school through the transfer of funds. They also approved a request from the School Improvement Council at the Middle School for an expenditure of $2,300 for a fish tank and other supplies for the solar room. Also included in the request for funds was an Alchemy Workshop Course for talented and gifted children.

At 9:30 p.m., prior to adjournment, the committee moved to review the upcoming budget for the next fiscal year.

Aroun' The Town & Golden Agers Update

By Lillian C. Sheehan

Parties and more parties - St. Brigid's Women's Club members were entertained by the Greendale Retired Men's Chorus at their December meeting and everyone was in a singing mood. They are truly a treat to listen to!!

Centerview had their own Christmas party enjoying a delicious dinner and exchanging gifts. They are now looking forward to a New Year's Eve Party.

Birthday greetings are in order for Frank Sheehan, whose birthday is January 1st; Catherine McGovern, who will celebrate hers on the 7th; Dorothea Grenier will celebrate on the 16th; and Ann Ethier's birthday falls on the 18th. Many Happy Returns to you all!!

COLONIAL APARTMENTS: Members of the Club at Colonial Apartments had a delightful party at the Colonial Club in Webster where they enjoyed a fine dinner and received gifts from their President. The group is now looking forward to a New Year's Eve party at the Lodge in Webster.

Celebrating birthdays in January are Barbara Saucier and Jerry DeSantis. Many Happy Returns!!

Alma Ethier has received word of the death of her brother, Hector Chausse, a former Millbury resident who died December 22, 1987 in Leisure City, Florida at the home of his daughter, Jacqueline, with whom he lived for the past two years. He also leaves two sons, William and Oren, and four nieces and two nephews. Folks in Millbury will recall when Mr. Chausse worked for Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

LINDEN APARTMENTS: Happy Birthday to Tillie Boudreau and Doris Cournoyer of Linden Apartments, who celebrate their birthdays in January, and to Mabel Doyon, formerly of Linden, who now resides in Providence House-Millbury. She will be 101 this month.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED: The Annual Meeting and Installation of officers of the Millbury-Sutton Council of Church Women United will be held at St. Brigid's Church, 59 Main Street, Millbury on Thursday, January 7th, at 1:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker will be Sr. Maryanne Guertin, newly appointed Co-Director of the Worcester Diocesan Council for Ecumenism and Interreligious Affairs and a lecturer at Assumption College in Worcester. Her topic will be "On Being a Woman in Today's Society." Mrs. Paul Gagne will be the soloist and Mrs. William Murphy, organist.

Officers to be installed are as follows: President, Mrs. Roger Bourdeau of Assumption Church in Millbury; First Vice President, Mrs. Dorothea Molleur of St. John's Church in Wilkinsonville; Second Vice President, Mrs. Victor Army of First Church in Bramanville; Secretary, Mrs. Stanley Karsoc of St. Brigid's Church in Millbury; Treasurer, Mrs. Hervey Brazeau of St. Mark's in Sutton; Auditor, Mrs. Frank Bullard of the Millbury Baptist Church; Publicity Co-Chairwomen, Mrs. Dennis Mulhane and Mrs. Robert White, both of St. Brigid's; Devotions Chairwoman, Mrs. William Dunn of St. Brigid's; Mrs. Arthur Perkins of the First Congregational Church of Millbury will be the Installing Officer.

Food and fellowship will follow in the church hall. The public is cordially invited to attend this ecumenical event.

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Chronicle Photo by Steven Gagne

Town Hall employees from Sutton (left photo) and Millbury (right photo) gathered together to extend New Year's wishes to all the residents of their towns. And a Very Happy New Year to all of you!

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Sutton Charter Review Continued....

Last week, the Chronicle provided highlights of the first four articles of the preliminary draft of the charter for Sutton. In that report, it was mentioned that the commission preparing the draft had labored to provide the town with a charter that would take Sutton into the Twenty-first Century and one which would tighten the reins of government and provide the various policy making bodies with the information necessary to make informed and responsible decisions.

This week, an outline of the remaining four articles of the charter will be presented. These articles, like the first four, have been amended to improve the lines of communication and to detail with greater specificity when certain functions, activities, etc. must take place in order for the system to function more effectively. Built into these articles is the mechanism for constant review and modification which is designed to accommodate changes that may occur in the future as the community grows.

Article 5: Administrative Organization. This article addresses the agencies which provide for the services and the administration of the government. According to Ethel O'Day, vice chairwoman of the Sutton Charter Commission, "We've kept all the state laws and the by-laws in place. What we added was an 'Administrative Code.' Under this, we may prepare plans of organization or re-organization for the operation of the town. This in no way affects the way we are operating now."

The rationale, according to Bud Gurney, chairman of the committee, is that, presently, by-law changes are the only way to affect re-organization. "This proposal keeps the town current as the town changes down the road," he said.

According to the administrative code, "the town administrator, after consultation with the board of selectmen, may from time to time prepare and submit to the town meeting plans of organization or reorganization...." When such plans are submitted, the selectmen will hold one or more public hearings after which the amended article will be submitted to the town meeting for approval or rejection.

The process is in keeping with the spirit of the charter which is to have the town administrator work with the selectmen but to ultimately allow the electorate the authority to make the final decision. However, the commission feels that the town administrator will be in an advantageous position to see what changes are needed and the selectmen will be better able to provide input into the process. The final authority still rests with the townspeople who act as the final arbiters.

Article 6: Finance and Fiscal Procedures. According to Mrs. O'Day, this article incorporates a few minor changes. Essentially, this article sets up procedures for creating the budget, establishes the fiscal year, and the dates and guidelines needed in preparation for the town meeting.

Two changes of note in this article are first that the town administrator will prepare the budget and secondly that the "Capital Improvement Program," a concept and idea that never got off the ground, will be revived in the hopes that better long-range financial planning can be accomplished.

Under the new charter, the town administrator will prepare the annual town budget and will then submit it to the finance and warrant advisory committee which will hold public hearings with multiple member boards, officers, and agencies.

The proposed charter will breathe new life into the capital improvement program. The town administrator will submit a capital improvement program to the selectmen and the finance and warrant advisory board 150 days before the start of each fiscal year. This report, according to Mrs. O'Day, will include a list of capital improvements proposed to be undertaken during the next five years, the cost estimates of those improvements, the method of financing and a time schedule, and an estimated annual cost of operating and maintaining each facility and major piece of equipment.

Hopefully, this plan will enable the town to remain current with operating expenses and allow the town to anticipate and plan for future capital expenditures.

Article 7: General Provisions. "This article offers no major changes," stated Bud Gurney. It allows for the charter to be reviewed, amended, or replaced under the state constitution.

"Section 7-4: Number and Gender" has been changed to include the female gender and eliminate gender discrimination.

Also included in this article are provisions for a charter review to occur at least once every ten years by a committee consisting of nine members. According to Ethel O'Day, the commission has built in this safeguard. If problems arise, the town will have the procedure to review the charter and make a report at the town meeting.

A "By-law Review Committee" will also be appointed every five years by the selectmen and report at the Fall town meeting any recommended changes. This committee will be on-going to review and assess the effectiveness of the by-laws. "In short," said Bud Gurney, "we will be giving the selectmen and the town committees the tools necessary to work with."

Central to Article 6 is the "Removal and Suspension" section. This section is important because under the new charter, many positions will be made by appointment, and the commission felt it necessary to provide these and other employees not protected by negotiated contracts with a mechanism for job protection. This section addresses the procedures necessary for removal and the vehicle for an employee which will allow him/her to have their case heard.

"Section 12 Term of Office" is important, again, because under the new charter some positions are changed from elected to appointed. A person appointed to a position will hold that office for an indefinite term subject only to removal or suspension in accordance with the established procedures.

Turn to Page 10

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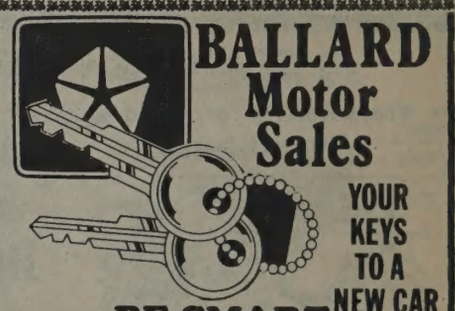

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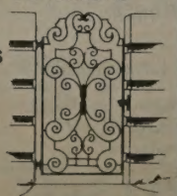

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Chronicle Photos by Steven Gagne

The Sutton Junior (top photo) and Senior High School (middle photo) Choruses, under the direction of Arthur Sacco, Jr., performed a Holiday Concert on December 16th at the Sutton Elementary School Auditorium. Members of the chorus were accompanied by the Sutton Schools Band (bottom photo), under the direction of Robert Seely.

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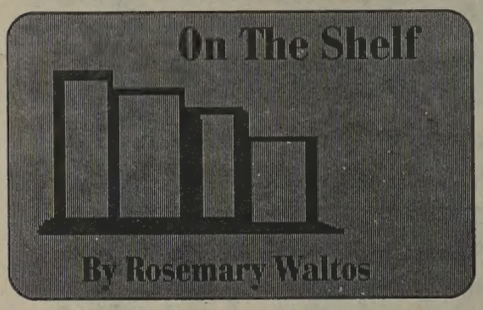
Article 8: Transitional Provisions. This last charter article stipulates when and how the new charter will take effect. It sets the dates of the town meeting, elections, who the town administrator will be and how he/she will be appointed, etc. It allows for the continuance of government and for the orderly uninterrupted transition from one form of government to the other.

The commission will be sending out copies of the preliminary final draft to all residents of Sutton. They hope that residents review their work and attend the public hearing to be held at the Elementary School beginning at 7:30 p.m. on January 21, 1988.

Mrs, O'Day summarized the feelings of the commission stating, "This draft is not the final word about anything; we are looking for comments and input from the community and invite anyone who has a question about any part of the charter to present them to the commissioners."

Again, the charter commission encourages all residents to attend the public hearing and to take an active interest in this revised document which will affect the town for the future.



JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - GRAF-X I & II. Graf-X I is a one hour introduction to the computer graphics capabilities of the Apple Mouse. You'll learn how to make your own designs and pictures in Graf-X I and graduate on to Graf-X II. Graf-X II is a one hour lesson in the further capabilities of computer graphics. You'll learn how to make even more detailed and complex graphic designs and pictures. Graf-X I is offered every Tuesday in January at 3:30 and Graf-X II is offered every Thursday, except January 21, at 3:30. Registration is necessary.

JANUARY 12 - PARENTS AS READING PARTNERS, REGISTRATION: Registration starts for this all new family reading club that both parents and children will enjoy. Each month a book from a different category, such as mysteries, animal stories, etc., is chosen and read aloud by the family. In June, the library will host a celebration of the completion of this program.

JANUARY 19 - PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR, REGISTRATION: Registration starts for the winter session of the library's popular preschool story hour. Preschool story hour is a series of programs that involved preschoolers in stories, games, songs and crafts. This program is designed to help your preschooler develop a love for books. Two story hour sessions will be offered at 10:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting in February, and ending in April. For registration and details, call the library at 865-1181.

JANUARY 20 & 21 - 3:30 - VOLUNTEER CLASSES FOR CHILDREN VOLUNTEERING IN CHILDREN'S ROOM. The children's room is offering an introduction to library services for children wishing to become children's room volunteers. Simple children's room procedures and other how-to information will be covered in this session. For kids interested in becoming volunteers, registration for this program starts on January 12.

JANUARY 28 - 6:30 - BEYOND THE BEST SELLER LIST: READING-DISCUSSING BOOKS WITH PROFESSOR ALEX BELISLE. This three part reading discussion offers an exploration of contemporary fiction. Professor Belisle will be using the contemporary classic ***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*** as a pivotal point to discussing what's good and what's bad in American fiction today. Copies of ***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*** by Ken Kesey, will be available for loan at the library. Registration for this provocative and educational program starts on January 5. Register in person or by calling the library at 865-1181.

Historical Society to Meet January 5th

SUTTON. The monthly meeting of the Sutton Historical Society will be held on Tuesday, January 5, at the General Rufus Putnam Hall at 8:00 p.m. The General Rufus Putnam Hall is conveniently located in Sutton center.

Following the business meeting, Stephen LeClaire will be offering a video tape presentation of the battle at the Stevenson Farm and the encampment at Marty Linder's Farm which took place during the Blackstone Valley Homecoming Week. The presentation will be of particular interest because Mr. LeClaire, an active and dedicated local historian, has captured the flavor and details of the mock revolutionary battle and the encampment which drew widespread attention because of its accuracy and drama.

Refreshments will be served and the public is welcome to attend this interesting and colorful return to revolutionary times.

Happy New Year

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Former Millbury Resident Praised for Courageous Efforts

Lt. Col. Judith Faye Hanson, the daughter of Paul T. Hanson of Millbury, was featured on the October 1987 cover of Trailblazer, a newspaper published by Norton Air Force Base in California, for her "swift and courageous actions" in saving the life of a retired navy commander who had been injured in an automobile accident in California last August.

Hanson, who is stationed in California, is a graduate of Millbury Memorial High School and the St. Vincent Hospital School of Nursing in Worcester.

Lt. Col. Hanson was driving to a military assignment when she witnessed the accident. According to the article, written by SSgt. Roberta Richards, "As she approached the scene of the accident, her first thought was that there could be no survivors. The roof of the car was smashed past the dashboard. Checking the driver's side, the nurse found a woman who was able to exit the car with the help of bystanders. In the passenger's side however, a man was trapped under the dashboard and was blue from lack of oxygen."

A 68th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron Chief nurse, Lt. Col. Hanson suddenly found herself in command. She ordered the on-lookers to lift the vehicle while she carefully pulled the injured navy commander to safety. The article continued, "Careful not to cause further damage to any possible spinal injuries, the nurse immediately opened his airway passage by using the 'jaw thrust' technique. As she aided his breathing, she felt a warm wetness on her leg and discovered arterial bleeding from a head wound. Quickly, she applied pressure to stop the bleeding.

"Still in command, she ordered bystanders to gather blankets, towels - anything to keep the victim warm and covered to prevent the onset of shock. The nurse then checked for any other wounds.

"Five minute later, a fire truck arrived with emergency personnel. They assisted Lt. Col. Hanson as she inserted an airway tube, oxygen, and put the victim on a back board."

The injured man, retired Navy Commander Clifford Nettleton, was then transported by helicopter to the hospital where he was discharged after one week.

Sylvia A. Nettleton, wife of the injured commander, expressed her gratitude to Hanson in a letter addressed to her commanding officer, Colonel Alice Myll. The letter read, in part,

"In spite of the danger of fire, she came to our aid, saw that I could crawl out with someone's help, and went to my husband....She was able to restore breathing and prevent cardiac arrest in those critical minutes long before police, medics or firemen could arrive.

"This skillful, courageous nurse continued to ignore her own safety as she wrapped towels and rugs around Cliff to warm him as he started into shock....

"There is no doubt that Nurse Hanson's quick actions saved my husband's life, and it is almost miraculous that he can look forward to a normal life physically and mentally.

"Although the car did not catch fire or explode from the gasoline that was spilled everywhere...Nurse Hanson had no way of knowing that it would not.

"....We owe our continued life together directly to Nurse Hanson and I would like you and all the Air Force to know of our appreciation."

We are sure that area residents are proud of the actions of this "home-town girl", and extend with us their congratulations for her heroic efforts.

Cookie Exchange Great Success

MILLBURY. On Wednesday, December 16, the Millbury Public Library hosted a cookie exchange in the children's room. Sixty-eight children attended this holiday exchange, bringing 47 dozen (a total of 564!) of their favorite cookies with them. While the kids enjoyed the PBS film classic The Snowman, library staff and volunteers were busy dividing the cookies so that each child could take a sampling of the fare home with them. Many parents also remembered to bring the recipes for the cookies baked. We hope to compile these recipes and make them available sometime soon.

The Millbury Public Library would like to thank all the children, their parents and volunteers, who made the library's first cookie exchange and all of the library's holiday programs such a great success.

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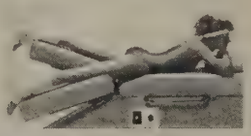

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BOB WATKINS: The Dedicated Sportsman...and much more!

By Bill Lucey

Bob Watkins, of Wedgewood Ave. in Millbury, is a bow and arrow enthusiast of wide and varied talents. His story and adventures are both entertaining and interesting.

His introduction to the sport came as somewhat of a "fluke". "About 25 years ago, a hunting friend of mine didn't want to have guns around the house with his children," explains Watkins. "He asked me if I wouldn't mind switching to hunting with bow and arrow. I said, 'No, let's give it a try.' I enjoyed it and have been doing it ever since."

Since that decision, Bob has enjoyed a passion for archery, bow and arrow hunting, and many other related activities. When Bob first started with bow and arrow, he mainly used a compound bow, a bow with sights to help the user with accuracy. Through the early years, Bob practiced, hunted, and competed with the compound bow, becoming an accomplished hunter as well as a skilled marksman. Once comfortable and confident of his abilities with the compound bow, Bob decided to undertake a new challenge, the old-fashioned long bow, a bow with no sights for accuracy. The transition would take time and effort, but that was the intent, and it seemed worth it to Bob.

It's a more exciting way of shooting," he explained. "That's why I started. Although it's not everyone's way of shooting, I prefer it because of the challenge it presents. Almost all of my hunting and competing now are done with the long bow."

Regardless of the style of shooting, Bob has been very successful, both hunting and competing. Although Bob prefers to spend most of his time hunting big game animals, he does compete in some tournaments during the year. He has established himself as an accomplished archer in the tournaments in which he has competed. With the compound bow, Bob was State Champion four times; with the long bow, he was New England champ in 1986. This past July, Bob experienced his greatest tournament thrill when he won the Great Lakes Invitational, the premier and most prestigious long-bow event of the year. This championship, held in Marshall, Michigan, attracts some 450 competitors from around the country.

Bob's real love, however, is bow and arrow hunting, which he does pretty much year round, whether it be the actual hunting, or various types of hunting studies.

Harvesting a big game animal is a very exciting moment, the ultimate reward for time spent scouting and practicing. Bob spends a lot of time hunting white-tail deer, his favorite animal, one which he has observed, studied and respected for many years. Bob has harvested 18 deer in his career, but none so far this season. He has also harvested several different kinds of animals, called "exotics." These include a wild board, a Catalina goat, Mouflon sheep, Rocky Mountain sheep, and a Barbados sheep. He also has spotted bears the past couple of years, but the shot has never presented itself.

This hunting season, Bob harvested a record-setting caribou on a trip to Canada, a trip initially planned to shoot a video. Bob explains the harvest, "I was sitting near a river-crossing, when the caribou swam over with nine other bulls. It came right over to me. I dropped it with one arrow, using the same bow I used to win the Great Lakes, which was quite significant. This was definitely the harvest of a lifetime."

Most of the big game animals Bob hunts cannot be found locally, although he does feel some of the biggest deer are right here in Massachusetts (Rutland, Barre, Hubbardston, Oakham). Bob takes trips to Canada, Pennsylvania and Michigan to find the game he hunts. He is often joined by his son Todd, who has harvested his own wild boar.

Bob credits his hunting success to the many hours of practice he performs. "Many people wait too long to practice and before you know it, the hunting season is upon us. I try to practice as much and as early as possible. Usually three or four days a week. Form is critical. Accuracy is the reward of good form. You cannot develop good form unless you practice."

Bob's long association with the bow and arrow, hunting, and archery competitions, has led him to develop many other interests, or better yet, talents. These interests include: contributing short stories for Long Bow Magazine in Shreveport, LA, scoring for records of exotics, membership on the archery committee at Century Sportsmen's Club in Auburn, instructing bow hunting for the State, and membership in the Professional Bow Hunter's Society. These activities provide Bob with much enjoyment as well as gratification.

Photo Courtesy of Bob Watkins

He has also learned certain talents which have yielded a nice profit, although that was not the original intent. Bob has designed a line of hats and shirts for hunting enthusiasts. Along with his friend Harry Elberg of Indiana, he has also designed a long bow called the "Viking" - a bamboo bow with a reverse handle. Incidentally, this long bow won first and second prizes at the Great Lakes Invitational. Quite an accomplishment. Bob acts as a field consultant for Harry as well.

A hair stylist by trade, Bob's most prominent and profitable secondary interest is as a state-licensed taxidermist. Although his taxidermy started as a hobby, Bob has now been practicing commercially for five or six years. His skills are being recognized more and more by local hunters and his business has grown so large that Bob has had to convert his garage into a workshop.

As a taxidermist, Bob takes a harvested animal and produces a mount, usually of the animal's head, preserving lifelike qualities. A standard job usually takes about two to three months.

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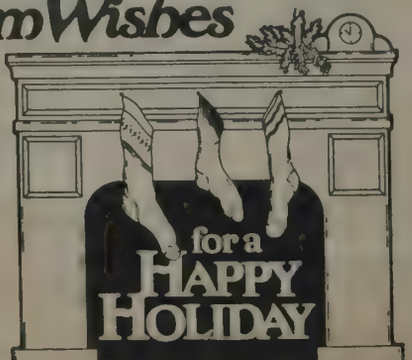

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Bob learned his art by reading books and studying videos. He also felt he had a natural "knack" for it, "Being a hair stylist, I felt I could learn and become good at it because of my work experience. My love for deer and their beauty drives me to make a special effort with my work as a taxidermist."

While the majority of Bob's business is deer mounts, he has had experiences with other animals, one of which was particularly interesting. Bob's friend, Ray Molton, harvested a black bear measuring approximately six feet tall, and weighing 376 pounds - believed to be a Massachusetts state record for a bow-harvested bear. All Bob did was convert this harvest into a bear rug. A unique job indeed!

Bob is quick to give credit to his wife, Pat, for her support. "I really have to give my wife a lot of credit for putting up with all this. Her support is helpful. We have worked out a good deal; the upstairs is hers, and the downstairs is mine."

The future for Bob Watkins appears to be just as promising and active as have been the past 25 years. Bob plans on continuing his yearly hunting trips throughout the country and Canada. He also plans on returning to Michigan to compete and retain his title as "Great Lakes Champ." Harry Elberg and Bob will expand their work designing bow and arrow equipment, and Bob will continue as a field consultant. Sometime in May, the Century Sportsmen's Club will hold a New England Long Bow Championship. Bob will play a major role in the organization of this tournament.

Bob is also planning another Caribou trip which will include 10 other bowhunters. Within the next year, he is going to begin taking bookings for this excursion. Bob will be booking with Bob Foulkrod, a professional bow hunter who is associated with the Delay River Outfitters in Canada.

With all that Bob Watkins has accomplished, there is an underlying aspect about this man which is most important. When many of us think of hunting, we tend to associate the "morbid" features of the sport with those who partake in it. Bob Watkins does not belong to this category. Bob has great respect for the sport and as great a respect for the animals he hunts. This is evidenced by the many hours he spends preparing his mounts as a taxidermist. As a member of the Professional Bow Hunter's Society, Bob works to make sure the legalities of bow hunting are adhered to. "Even though it is hard to control, we try to police our own ranks. Poaching is senseless and inexcusable. It bothers me just as much as anyone else. Bow hunting is a great sport. It's a privilege right I am thankful for, and I will do anything I can to protect that right for myself and others. Some people don't agree with hunting, and I respect their opinions as well. There are pros and cons to everything."

If any readers are interested in taking up the sport of archery, or bow hunting, Bob recommends being fitted for equipment at a pro shop. Anyone interested in the long bow should consult Bob. After all, he is quite knowledgeable and experienced when it comes to the bow and arrow!

SUTTON SENIOR NEWS

WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

MONDAY: All day doctor appointments; Exercise 11-12; Crafts 1-3

TUESDAY: Lunch at noon; Social after lunch; Special shopping trip to malls on the two last Tuesdays of the month

WEDNESDAY: Lunch at noon; Bingo in the afternoon; PM doctor appointments

THURSDAY: Grocery shopping for Wilkinsonville, Sutton and Manchaug; Health checks at Orchard Apartments from 8-9:30; Info and Referral from 10-11:30.

FRIDAY: Lunch at noon; Health checks at Town Hall Library from 12:30-1:00; bowling in Webster at 1:15.

PLEASE NOTE: Lunch reservations must be made 24 hours in advance.

FUEL ASSISTANCE: We are still taking applications for fuel assistance on Mondays from 9:30-2:30 p.m. Make appointments by calling 865-9798, between 9 and 3, Monday through Friday.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS: Please tell your friends and relatives that we are in need of volunteer drivers for home delivered meals and special doctor appointments. It only takes about 1 hour to drive someone to the doctor and back. Start the new year off with a heart of GIVING some time to others. It will be appreciated.

FRIENDS MEETING: Friends of Elders meeting is Tuesday, January 12, 12:30 p.m., on the 3rd floor of the town hall. Anyone in the community who would like to help the Sutton Seniors by being a friend is welcome.

Worcester Youth Ballet to Hold Auditions

WORCESTER. The Worcester Youth Ballet, the resident ballet company of the Performing Arts School of Worcester, under the direction of Gayla Zukevich, will hold auditions for advanced level male and female dancers of at least 14 years of age. The auditions will be held at the Performing Arts School, 21 High St., Worcester, on Monday, January 11, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Young ladies should bring their pointe shoes. Those interested in auditioning should call 755-8246 to schedule an appointment.

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CHEF'S CHOICE
Dinners include choice of potato, vegetable salad, hot bread, dessert and coffee

Department of Public Health Releases Lung Cancer Mortality Study for Millbury

The following Lung Cancer Mortality Study for the Town of Millbury was released by the Department of Public Health on Thursday, December 16, 1987, and made available to the Millbury-Sutton Chronicle through the office of Representative Paul Kollios (D-Millbury).

The Millbury-Sutton Chronicle feels that local residents should be apprised of the information contained in this report. We have therefore decided to publish the report in its entirety, and we encourage residents to review the study and to write in with any questions they may have. We will, in turn, attempt to obtain answers to your questions from the Department of Public Health.

The report, dated December 10, 1987, was prepared by Robert S. Knorr, Ph.D., Kevin Costas, M.P.H. and Pamela Deutsch.

Table 1

Mortality of Selected Cancer Types For Millbury Residents, 1969-1973 and 1979-1983

Cancer		1969-1973 Observed	Expected	SMR	1979-1983 Observed	Expected	SMR*
All Cancers	M	48	57.9	83	70	65.7	107
	F	50	48.5	103	67	59.7	112
	T	98	106.4	92	137	125.4	109
Liver	M	0	0.5	-	0	0.6	-
	F	1	0.2	500	0	0.2	-
	T	1	0.7	143	0	0.8	-
Lung	M	18	16.5	109	26	20.3	128
	F	2	4.1	49	6	8.1	74
	T	20	20.6	97	32	28.4	112
Bladder	M	1	2.0	50	1	2.1	47
	F	1	0.9	111	1	1.1	90
	T	2	2.9	69	2	3.2	62
Kidney	M	0	1.2	-	3	1.6	184
	F	1	0.7	143	1	1.0	99
	T	1	1.9	53	4	2.6	152

* No cancers show statistically significant excesses.

Table 2

Incidence of Selected Cancer Types For Millbury Residents, 1982-1985

		1982-1985 Observed	PIR*
Liver	M	1	148
	F	0	-
	T	1	
Lung	M	17	75
	F	12	96
	T	29	
Bladder	M	5	67
	F	4	131
	T	9	
Kidney	M	6	184
	F	2	84
	T	8	

* PIR = Proportional incidence ration PIR >100 indicates excess cancer. No cancers show statistially significant excesses.

Description of the Occurrence of Lung Cancer Mortality in the Town of Millbury, Massachusetts

"Residents of Millbury, Massachusetts may have been exposed to emissions from two chemical plants, presently named Lewcott Chemical and Plastics Corporation and Polyclad Laminates, Inc. These plants apply phenolic resins to cloth materials in the production of various products. The chemical building blocks of the resins include phenol and formaldehyde reacted under high temperature. The resultant air emissions are volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including phenol which has a low odor threshold i.e., the odor is detected at low concentrations. Though no detailed air monitoring data exists, odor characteristic of the emissions has regularly been detected by residents of the area, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (DEQE) staff, and members of the Millbury Board of Health. In addition, Lewcott Corporation has received several "notices of violation" by DEQE with regard to odor and opacity (i.e. dense smoke) of the air emissions.

"Residents have expressed concern regarding possible adverse health effects from such emissions. In 1986, the Massachusetts Department of Public health (MDPH) began a lung cancer mortality study in the vicinity of a Lewcott Corporation plant located in Worcester. The plants' operations were similar to those of the Millbury plant and preliminary MDPH findings suggested a possibly excess of lung cancer near the Worcester plant (Review of Cancer Incidence and Environmental Data for Quinsigamond Village in Worcester, MDPH, May 1, 1986). Residents of the Quinsigamond Village neighborhood also complained of symptoms similar to those reported by the residents of Millbury which they related to air emissions. Cancer statistics for the town of Millbury were reviewed and some of the results are shown in Tables 1 and 2. These Tables describe the occurrence within Millbury of the types of cancers that could possibly be related to exposures to phenol and related compounds, based upon animal and occupational studies. The numbers of cancer cases among Millbury residents was generally very small. While lung cancer mortality was observed to be somewhat elevated, it was not statistically significant. More importantly cancer incidence was not elevated.

"To further investigate whether air emissions from Lewcott Corporation and Polyclad, Inc. may have increased the lung cancer mortality rate, an analysis of the lung cancer mortality experience among Millbury males and females was conducted.

METHODS

"To assess the lung cancer mortality rates in the potentially exposed population, an epidemiologic approach which compared the occurrence of lung cancer mortality for the exposed population with the occurrence of lung cancer mortality in some comparison population was used. The purpose of this type of epidemiologic approach is to determine if the rate of lung cancer mortality is higher among those individuals potentially exposed to some environmental agent of interest than among those not exposed.

"The first step is to define the study population. In Millbury, the population of interest is that which resides near the two chemical plants. This area includes parts of each of the three census tracts which makeup the town of Millbury (see Figure 2a [page 15]). It was deemed inappropriate to analyze the mortality by census tract since a significant proportion of the population of the larger census tracts did not reside near the chemical plants. Inclusion of individuals not residing near the plants might dilute results. Instead, census block groups, which are subdivisions of census tracks, were used to define the study area.

"The appropriate study area was determined after reviewing odor complaints of Millbury residents, site visit reports by DEQE and Board of Health representatives, and meterological and environmental data. The study area was determined to be approximately the region within a one mile radius of the two chemical plants, which are located adjacent to each other near the southeastern corner of Millbury. To identify the census block groups which constitute this area, maps and population data from the U.S. Census Bureau were reviewed. Figure 1 [page 15] illustrates the study areas as defined by three census block groups and one entire census tract. The specific boundaries of the study area were in part determined by how the Census Bureau geographically defined its census block groups. The study area, as shown in Figure 1, is the smallest possible area which would include the one-mile radius exposure zone. Based upon 1980 census data, the study area represents approximately thirty-nine percent of the total Millbury population.

"The study period was defined as 1979 through 1985. The reasons for this are as follows: 1) the latency period, or time it takes for a cancer to develop and be diagnosed after exposure to a causative agent, can range from 15 to 30 years for lung cancer; and 2) the plants did not go into operation until the mid 1960's. The late 1970's would, therefore, likely be the earliest time that an effect from the plant air emissions might be seen. The latest year included in the study was 1985 which is the most recent year that mortality date reported to MDPH is considered complete. It would have been useful to present lung cancer mortality for the study area for an earlier time period so that comparisons with the more recent data could be made. However, 1970 block group census data could not be obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau. Only census block population data from the 1980 census was available for this analysis. Table 3 shows the 1980 population characteristics of the study area, for the remainder of Millbury, and for the town as a whole.

Table 3

Age and Sex Distribution of the Study Population, 1980.

Age	Study Area* #	%	Remainder of Millbury # Males	%	Total Millbury #	%
<25	1005	45.3	1488	41.7	2493	43.1
25-34	279	12.6	504	14.1	783	13.5
35-44	280	12.6	419	11.7	699	12.1
45-54	263	11.9	374	10.5	637	11.0
55-64	187	8.4	409	11.5	596	10.3
65-74	138	6.2	268	7.5	406	7.0
75+	67	3.0	109	3.0	176	3.0
TOTAL	2219	100.0	3571	100.0	5790	100.0
			Females			
<25	863	36.2	1334	36.7	2197	36.5
25-34	324	13.6	505	13.9	829	13.8
35-44	303	12.7	449	12.4	752	12.5
45-54	258	10.8	425	11.7	683	11.3
55-64	224	9.4	438	12.0	662	11.0
65-74	199	8.4	316	8.7	515	8.6
75+	212	8.9	168	4.6	380	6.3
TOTAL	2383	100.0	3635	100.0	6018	100.0
			Total			
<25	1868	40.6	2822	39.2	4690	39.7
25-34	603	13.1	1009	14.0	1612	13.6
35-44	583	12.7	868	12.0	1451	12.3
45-54	521	11.3	799	11.1	1320	11.2
55-64	411	8.9	847	11.8	1258	10.7
65-74	337	7.3	584	8.1	921	7.8
75+	279	6.1	277	3.8	556	4.7
TOTAL	4602	100.0	7206	100.0	11808	100.0

* Block groups #3 and #4 within census tract #7371
Block groups #4 within census tract #7373
Census Tract #7372

"Applying the definition of the study area and study period, the study population is then defined as all lung cancer deaths occurring between 1979 and 1985 among the male and female residents of the study area. Table 4 provides the number of lung cancer deaths by sex and age for the study area and the remainder of Millbury.

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Figure 1

Boundaries of Defined Study Area.

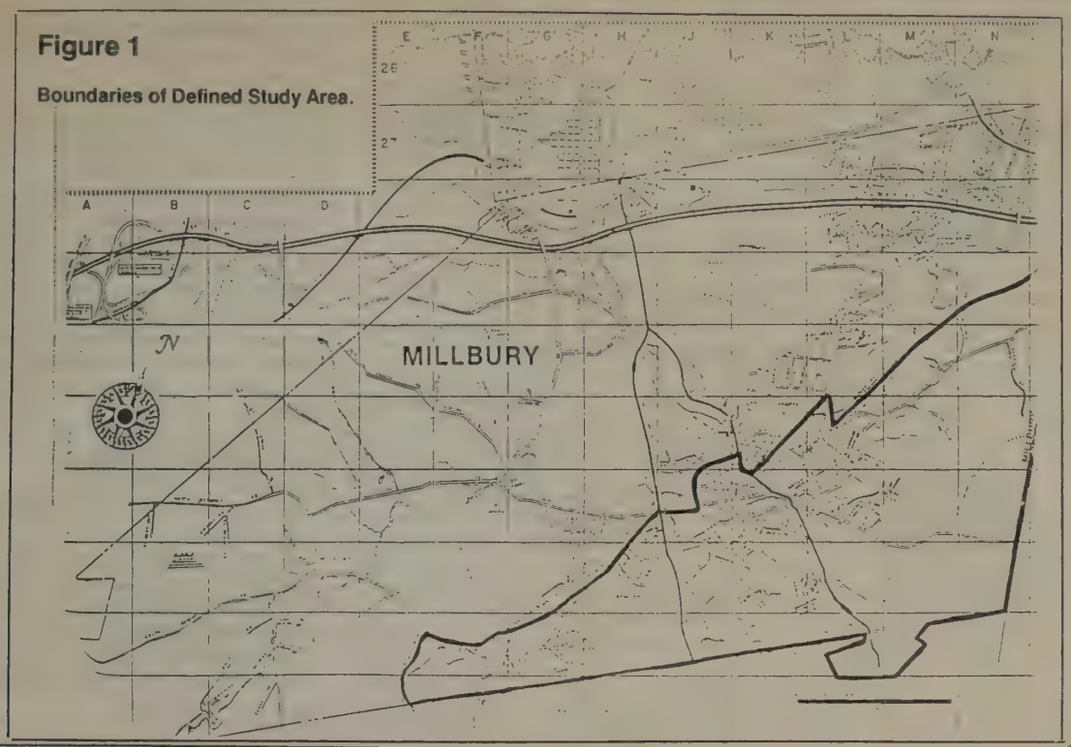

Figure 2a

Map of Control Census Tracts Located in Auburn.

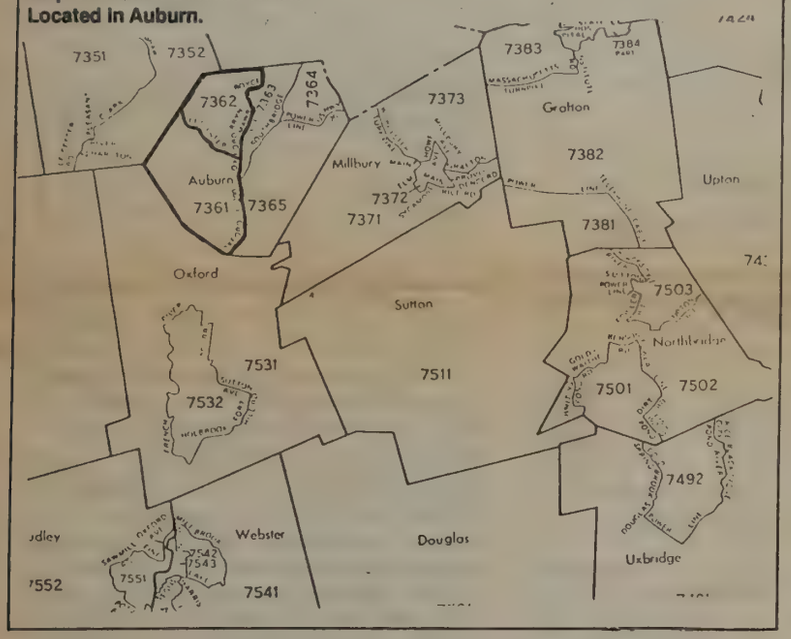

Figure 2b

Map of Control Census Tracts Located in Worcester

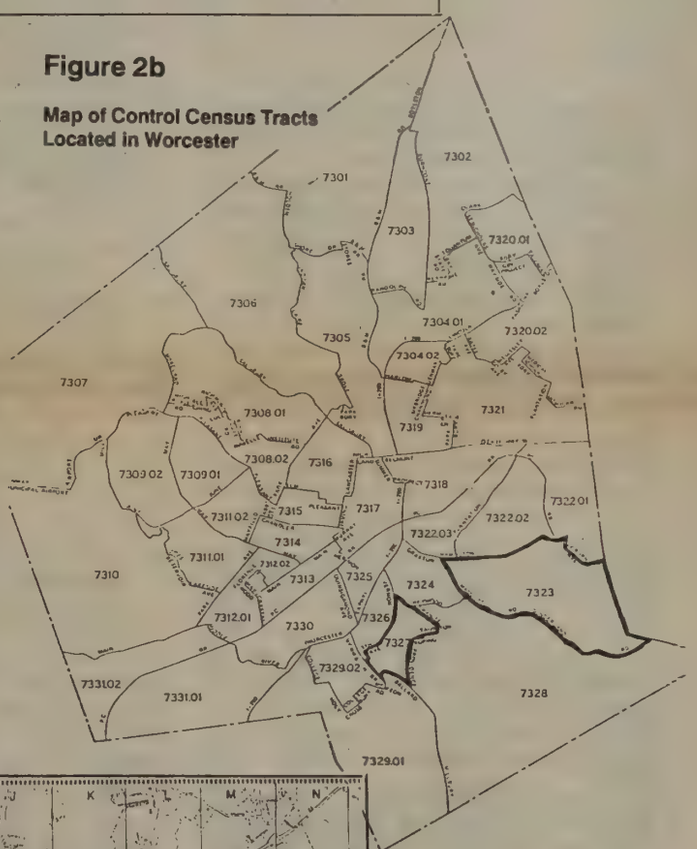

Figure 3

Distribution of Lung Cancer Deaths by Residence at Time of Death for Millbury Residents, Males and Females, 1979 - 1985

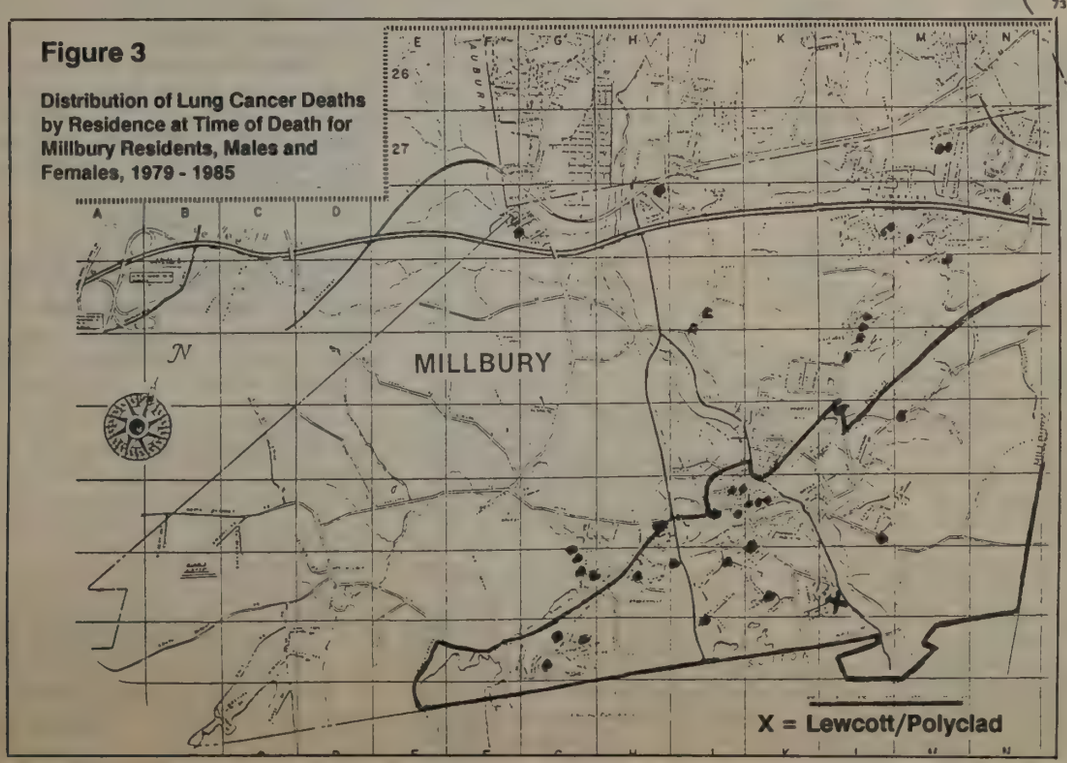

Table 4

Distribution of Lung Cancer Deaths by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area, 1979-1985

Age	Study Area* #	Study Area* %	Remainder of Millbury # Males	Remainder of Millbury %	Total Millbury #	Total Millbury %
<45	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
45-54	1	6.7	0	0.0	1	3.2
55-64	4	26.7	10	62.5	14	45.2
65-74	5	33.3	3	18.8	8	25.8
75+	5	33.3	3	18.8	8	25.8
TOTAL	15	100.0	16	100.1	31	100.0
			Females			
<45	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
45-54	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
55-64	1	20.0	1	25.0	2	22.2
65-74	4	80.0	3	75.0	7	77.8
75+	0	00.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTAL	5	100.0	4	100.0	9	100.0
			Total			
<45	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
45-54	1	5.0	0	0.0	1	2.5
55-64	5	25.0	11	55.0	16	40.0
65-74	9	45.0	6	30.0	15	37.5
75+	5	25.0	3	15.0	8	20.0
TOTAL	20	100.0	20	100.0	40	100.0

"Two comparisons of the study area mortality were carried out in the analysis. These represent the objectives of the analysis and are:

1) To compare the occurrence of lung cancer mortality for the study area with the occurrence of lung cancer mortality that would be expected based upon the rate of lung cancer mortality in the state from 1979 to 1985; and,

2) To compare the occurrence of lung cancer mortality of the study area with the occurrence of lung cancer mortality for a demographically similar area from 1979 to 1983.

"The first comparison was made through the calculation of standardized mortality ratio's (SMRs). An SMR is the ratio of the number of observed deaths to the number of deaths expected. The observed number is simply the total number of lung cancer deaths that occurred among all age groups in the study population during the time period of interest for each sex. The expected number is computed by applying the annual age and sex specific lung cancer mortality rates for Massachusetts to the age distribution of the study population. In this way, the expected number indicates the number of lung cancer deaths that would be observed in a population with the age distribution of the study population and the lung cancer mortality rates of an "average" or "unexposed" population.

"The SMR is a useful measure of excess cancer mortality in a population. The values are presented as a percent, with a value of 100 indicating the observed number of deaths is equivalent to the number expected. A value over 100 indicates excess mortality. As a further step in evaluating an SMR value, a 95% confidence interval is calculated for each SMR. If a confidence interval includes the number 100, then even if the SMR is greater than 100, the excess may not be a true excess but may be the result of a chance fluctuation.

"In the second comparison, the purpose was to determine if the population in the study area was at greater risk of lung cancer mortality than the population of a demographically and socio-economically similar area. However, the comparison or control area is also chosen to be without significant environmental exposures. Though many important differences may exist between the two populations being compared, such as smoking patterns and occupational exposures, this method permits comparison of two populations that differ only with regard to one known factor, their environment.

"The comparison area was chosen from among all census tracts of Worcester, Millbury and Auburn. Tables 5 and 6 describe the criteria used to select the comparison census tracts. Before a tract is selected, each of the criterion listed must be satisfied.

Table 5

Criteria for Choosing (Matching) Control Census Tracts

Matching Factors	Range of Acceptable Population Distribution Around That of Study Area
Age	± 5%
Race	± 5%
Median Family Income	± $3,000
Percent of Familes Below Poverty Level	± 10%
Level of Education Among Adults	± 10% for each level (8 years or less) (9 to 12 years) (1 to 3 years of college) (4 or more years of college)
Stability of population (percent remaining in same home 5 years)	± 10%

Additional Criteria: No Industry from Table 6 present.

Table 6

Manufacturing and Processing Industries Reviewed in Control Tracts

Asbestos Products
Chemical
Enameling
Forging
Gasket Products
Leather Products
Lubricating Oil Manufacturing
Metal Casting
Metal Foundries
Metal Heat Treating
Metal Smelting
Non-Ferrous Casting
Paper Manufacturing
Petroleum Refining
Petroleum and Coal Products
Plastics
Rubber Products

* Reviewed industries by address listed in:
1. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Industry Directory (1962)
2. Directory of Massachusetts Manufacturers (1985) industries commonly associated with air pollution

Table 7

Selected Control Census Tracts*

Tract # 7323
Trace # 7327
Tract # 7361
Tract # 7362

*Tracts #7323 and 7327 are within Worcester City
Tracts #7361 and 7362 are within the Town of Auburn

Table 8

Characteristics of Study Area and Control Tracts*

Selected Matching Criteria	Study Area **	Control Census Tracts 7323	7327	7361	7362
Stability of Population	72.4	70.1	68.4	66.5	77.5
Median Family Income	20,243	19,105	18,943	21,975	22,978
Percent of Population Below Poverty Level	5.6	8.8	8.6	4.4	2.2
Percent College Graduates	9.8	8.5	10.8	11.3	11.1
Percent Age 65	13.4	14.3	13.8	9.1	12.3

* Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980 Census
** Estimates

The 1980 census data was used to select tracts for comparison of 1979-1983 mortality rates. Table 7 lists the tracts which were found to match the study area. Table 8 shows how the matched control tracts compare demographically to the study area.

Figures 2a and 2b [page 15] illustrate the location of the selected control tracts within the towns.

"The cancer mortality rates for the study area were compared to the mortality rates of the matched control groups. The direct comparison of the death rates involved the calculation of rate ratios. A rate ratio is the risk of disease mortality among one group (exposed) compared to the risk of disease mortality in a comparison group (controls). In this study, the rate ratio is the crude mortality rate of the study area divided by the crude mortality rate of all the control group tracts combined. A value of 1.0 means there is no difference in the risk of disease mortality between the two populations. A value greater than 1.0 may indicate greater risk in the study area. In addition, a value greater than or less than 1.0 can occur and still mean there is no significant difference because of a chance occurrence. For this reason, a 95% confidence interval for each rate ratio is calculated. These identify the boundaries in which we would expect 95% of the true rate ratios to fall. If the value of 1.0 is within the interval, then it is concluded that the rate ratio reveals no significant difference in risk between the two groups being compared.

RESULTS

"The results of the first comparison, the SMRs, are presented in Table 9. This table shows the age-adjusted standardized mortality ratios for the study area and the remainder of Millbury. A total of twenty lung cancer deaths occurred in the study populations between 1979 and 1985. Most of these deaths occurred in males aged 55 and older. This age distribution is consistent with what is observed nationally.

Table 9

Observed and Expected Numbers of Lung Cancer Deaths by Geographic Area and Sex, 1979-1985

	Study Area	Remainder of Millbury	Total Millbury
Males			
Observed No. of Deaths	15	16	31
Expected No. of Deaths	10.3	19.0	29.3
SMR	146.0	84.2	105.9
95% Confidence Interval	0.81-2.40	0.48-1.37	0.72-1.50
Females			
Observed No. of Deaths	5	4	9
Expected No. of Deaths	5.4	7.7	13.1
SMR	93.4	51.8	68.9
95% Confidence Interval	0.30-2.16	0.14-1.33	0.31-1.30
Total			
Observed No. of Deaths	20	20	40
Expected No. of Deaths	16.3	25.4	41.8
SMR	122.5	78.6	95.8
95% Confidence Interval	0.75-1.90	0.48-1.22	0.68-1.30

"The SMRs for the females in the study area indicate the number of lung cancer deaths observed is about what would be expected given the age distribution of the population. However, the SMR for males in the study area suggests more cases are observed than would be expected. In reviewing the confidence interval to determine if this result may simply be due to chance, it can be concluded that this observed excess was not statistically significant. This result means the SMR value may be due to a chance fluctuation in lung cancer mortality between 1979 and 1985. But it is possible that a true statistically significant excess was not detected because the number of lung cancer deaths was small.

"For the rest of Millbury and for the town as a whole, the observed lung cancer mortality is equal to what is expected or slightly below expected. Figure 3 [page 15] illustrates the distribution of cases throughout the town. The cases appear to be distributed randomly within the town.

Table 10

Average Annual Lung Cancer Mortality Rate per 10,000 Population (Males + Females), 1979-1983, for Millbury Study Area and Control Tracts

	Millbury Study Area	Control Tract Group
Number of lung cancer deaths	14	37
Crude Rate per 10,000 population	30.4	21.9
Rate Ratio*	1.0	1.39
95% Confidence Interval		0.75 - 2.56

* Rate Ratio - Crude Rate for Study Area / Crude Rate for Control Group

"Table 10 gives the results of the second com-

Turn to Page 17

parison. For the period 1979 through 1983, fourteen lung cancer deaths occurred among the males and females of the study area. Males and females were combined in this comparison because of the small number of female deaths in this time period (3 deaths). Only lung cancer deaths occurring between 1979 and 1983 were included because 1984 and 1985 mortality data were not available by census tract for the control area. By calculating what the rate of lung cancer mortality is in the study area, a result of 30.4 lung cancer deaths for every 10,000 people is observed for the time period 1979-83. The control tracts show a combined rate that is lower. For the same time period, this population experienced 21.9 lung cancer deaths for every 10,000 members of the population. The rate ratio of 1.39 suggests there is an excess risk of lung cancer mortality in the study area, but the confidence interval indicates the risk is not statistically significant. The excess risk ration is principally due to the high cancer rate among males.

DISCUSSION

"The purpose of this epidemiologic analysis was to examine the relationship between lung cancer mortality and air pollution in Millbury. In drawing conclusions from these data, it is important to keep in mind several points.

"Based on evidence from the DEQE, residents in the vicinity of the Lewcott and Polyclad plants have been exposed to volatile organic contaminates in the air since the 1960's. However, data is limited regarding the level of exposure and the population at greatest risk of exposure. Data is also limited regarding the carcinogenic potential of the know air emissions. None of the emissions, including phenol, methyl ethyl ketone, and toluene, have been identified as carcinogenic in humans.

"In addition to some types of air pollutants like asbestos, there are other exposures which can cause lung cancer. Two examples are smoking and occupational exposures. Smoking is the major risk factor for lung cancer, but information on smoking was not available for the study population. Complete occupational histories were not obtained; however, occupation at time of death was recorded. The occupations of nearly all the male lung cancers were either in the manufacturing industry (e.g., textiles, metals), trucking industry, construction, or the trades (e.g., plumbing, carpentry). Considering the part smoking and occupation likely play in the causation of the lung cancers in this analysis, controlling for smoking and occupation would probably decrease the strength of an association between place of residence and lung cancer mortality. In other words, if we could account for those individuals who smoked heavily and worked in high risk occupations, the risk ratio presented in this document would likely be lower. This is particularly true because the numbers of cases is small. The true cause of lung cancer in this study population is apt by to be a mosaic of causes, not just one agent.

"The length of residence of the cases in Millbury was also not available for the cases. However, this can be a factor that can affect the conclusions of an analysis such as this. Latency has been mentioned as the length of time between initial exposure to the cancer causing agent(s) and diagnosis of the cancer. If the latency period for lung cancer is twenty years and an individual moved to Millbury fifteen years prior to diagnosis of the cancer then the environmental agent present in Millbury probably could not have caused that individuals cancer. This would result in including more cases of cancer into analysis than is appropriate and erroneously yielding an elevated risk ratio.

"It is also possible that factors such as the small size of the study population make it too difficult to detect what may be a true risk of cancer. With small numbers, only small differences between the study population and comparison population in factors like smoking and occupation can mask an effect. The matter of small study size can present serious limitations to a study that may be impossible to overcome and may result in findings that are not meaningful or responsive to community concerns.

CONCLUSION

"There does not appear to be an association between the increased mortality observed among males in Millbury and the presence of the Lewcott and Polyclad facilities in that town. This conclusion is supported by the following facts. First, an excess in lung cancer mortality was observed for males but not females and this result is not consistent with an environmental cause. If a common environmental factor unique to the study area was responsible for an excess in an environmentally-sensitive cancer like lung cancer, it would be expected that the rate in both males and females would be elevated.

"The distribution of residences of each lung cancer death further supports this conclusion because the residences were observed to be evenly distributed in a pattern consistent with the population density of the town as a whole. Only two cases resided within one-half mile of the plants. Furthermore, given the direction of the prevailing winds (58% of the year from the west, northwest, and southwest), most of the residences were not located in the area of greatest exposure to plant emission.

"The size of the study populations and other factors clearly limit the ability of this investigation to detect a true increased rate of lung cancer. However, the lack of consistency in the results, the distribution of the cancers within the town, and the types of pollutants being emitted do not suggest an environmental link.

"Cancer is more common than many people believe. One of every three persons in the United States will develop cancer during their lifetime and it eventually affects three out of every four families. The number of people with cancer is increasing in most communities because more people are living longer and reaching the ages of greatest cancer occurrence.

"Much more research is needed before the causes of cancer are well understood. Current knowledge, however, suggests that the leading preventable cause of lung cancer is tobacco use, especially cigarette smoking. It is important to emphasize that current estimates attribute only five to fifteen percent of the causes of lung cancer mortality to the physical environment (e.g., pollution) but over eighty percent of lung cancer is attributable to smoking. Overall thirty percent of all cancer mortality can be attributed to smoking, approximately thirty-five percent to diet, three percent to alcohol, seven percent to sexual and reproductive factors and about fifteen percent to occupational or environmental exposures.

RECOMMENDATIONS

"The results of this analysis do not suggest an association with emissions from the two plants because of the lack of a statistically significant result in males, no excess was observed in female lung cancer mortality, and the residences of the cases appeared to be distributed according to the population density of Millbury and not according to proximity to the plants. However, the results of this mortality analysis should not be used to reduce efforts directed at controlling the air emissions. The nature of the emissions from the Lewcott and Polyclad facilities are such that they can present a nuisance to the residents living nearby. Given the unknown potential for other health effects and given the nuisance potential of the emissions, MDPH recommends:

1. Emissions be controlled in accordance with the best available control technology. This action has been required by DEQE and recently implemented by Lewcott Corporation;

2. Surveillance of lung cancer mortality and incidence should continue in this community to determine if the observed lung cancer experience in males continues and becomes statistically significant;

3. If a statistically significant elevation in lung cancer mortality or incidence is observed, MDPH should suggest appropriate public health interventions and work with the Millbury Board of Health in implementing these interventions;

4. MDPH provide updates to the Millbury Task Force and the local news media regarding cancer statistics; and

5. MDPH provide consultation regarding risk assessments from air and soil monitoring results, when requested by the DEQE.

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Crossword Puzzle

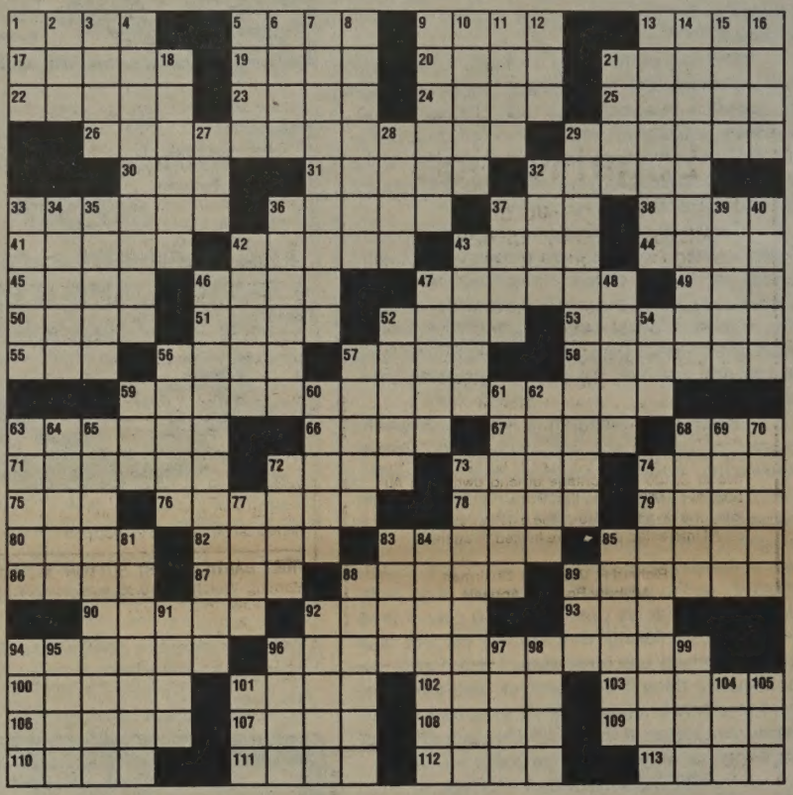
By Olive Dunn

ACROSS

1 Favorable sign
5 Throw off
9 Mischief-makers
13 Newts
17 Vague suppositions
19 Drama award
20 Ruminate
21 Supernatural being
22 Born fool
23 Towel word
24 Stratagem
25 Arm bones
26 Kind of thoroughfare
29 Lightly fried
30 Words on a menu
31 Yes man
32 To the point
33 Worried
36 Fumble
37 Nothing
38 Rams' dams
41 Hurdy-gurdy
42 Appomattox figure
43 Muslim judge
44 Salon treatment
45 Slender but strong
46 Monotonous
47 Desires
49 FDR agcy.
50 Year counts
51 Seine feeder
52 Insipid
53 — swim!
55 Piffle
56 Soap manifestation
57 African gully
58 Isolate
59 Hilarious performance
63 "The — Riley"
66 Playwright William
67 Modernists
68 Profusion
71 — cracker
72 Risque
73 Family group
74 Salle, in Schenectady
75 Ship-shaped clock
76 Wolfish
78 Enrich
79 Or —!
80 Partner of sciences
82 Sweep's harvest
83 Flat-bottomed vessels
85 Evergreen juniper
86 Eyelid problem
87 Shanty
88 Santa —
89 Take offense
90 Aspect
92 Pottery fragment
93 — poetica
94 Fit professional
96 Last possible moment
100 Construe
101 Cry aloud
102 Give the heave-ho
103 Ruin's companion
106 — nous
107 Beluga's cousin
108 E Pluribus —
109 Bristles
110 Skates
111 Word with high or deep
112 Sheltered sides
113 Withhold

DOWN

1 First letter in key trio
2 Restraint
3 Military subdivision
4 Gate-cashers of a sort
5 Capital of Qatar
6 Comply
7 Tops
8 Chain of flowers
9 Delay
10 Hornless
11 Collude
12 Wily
13 Shoulder ornament
14 Short nap
15 Small shark
16 — row
18 Obtained illegally
21 Beat it!
27 Gum quantity
28 Absorbed
29 Instant
32 Adjutant
33 Mounted Indian soldier
34 Wheat, in Espana
35 Fine-feathered fowl
36 City in SE France
37 Wheel hub
39 Register
40 Gawk
42 Slither
43 Funnyman
46 Bluffer
47 Sponge
48 Head cavity
52 Savory
54 City in Serbia
56 Sandbank
57 Show pain
59 Pro —
60 Cheerful
61 Certain relatives
62 Brings up
63 Turner namesakes
64 Motionless
65 Equally
68 Clear up
69 Red dye
70 Catkin
72 Melee
73 Euphoric state
74 Placated
77 Fit of sullenness
81 Aquatic mammal hunters
83 Russian or Croatian
84 Painstaking
85 Goat antelopes
88 Lobster claws
89 Laudatory shout
91 Nucleus
92 Part of a loaf
94 Stratum
95 Ballerina Pavlova
96 Deserve
97 Accurate
98 Fashion variables
99 Value
101 Canton cooker
104 Dismiss, unceremoniously
105 Solution



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Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

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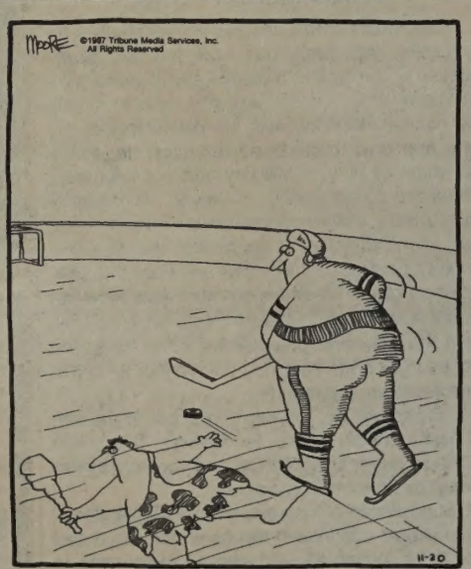
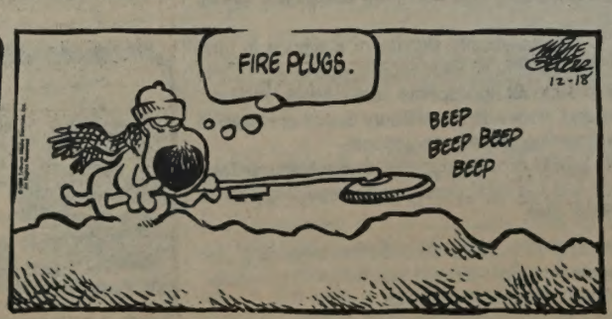


MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

by Mike Peters



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TOWN OF MILLBURY
MILLBURY BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws and the Zoning Ordinances of the Town of Millbury, a public hearing will be held in the Hearing Room of the Municipal Building, 127 Elm Street, Millbury, Massachusetts on Wednesday, January 6, 1988 at 7:30 p.m. to act on a petition from O. Normand and Gerard Audette, 9 Juniper Drive, Millbury, MA 01527 for a variance/special permit in the Millbury Zoning Ordinance relative to The renewal of a special permit for general repairs and car sales at 328 Main Street, Millbury.

All interested parties are invited to attend.

Richard P. Valentino, Chairman
Millbury Board of Appeals
December 24, 31, 1987

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All interested parties are invited to attend.

Richard P. Valentino, Chairman
Millbury Board of Appeals
December 24, 31, 1987

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ST. BRIGID'S - MILLBURY: Rev. Thomas J. Markey, Pastor; Rev. Robert E. Kelley, Associate Pastor - Weekday Masses: 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.; Saturday Masses: 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Masses: 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; Confessions: Saturday at 11:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

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SUTTON FIRST CONGREGATIONAL: Rev. Andrew J. Bierkan, Pastor - Sundays: 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship & Sunday School in the Meetinghouse. Crib Room, Nursery, Kindergarten, Grades 1-8 at 10:00 a.m.; Jr. P.F. as announced; Sr. P.F. 7-9 p.m. Programs: Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.; 1st Wednesday, Mission Team Work Meeting at 10:00 a.m.; 2nd Thursday, Women's Fellowship of Sutton luncheon/program/meetings at noon. Monthly Public Suppers on 1st Saturdays, 5-7 p.m. Monthly Public Luncheons: 3rd Wednesdays - noon to 1:00 p.m. April-Nov.; Sunday School stops after June 12, Children's Day.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL, MILLBURY, Telephone - 865-9861: Rev. Arthur W. Perkins, Minister - Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School 9:00 a.m.; Mondays 7:30 p.m., Diet Workshop; Deacons - First Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Executive Board - Second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.; Millbury Woman's Club - First Monday at noon.

MILLBURY FEDERATED: Methodist - Congregational Rev. Richard Mattozzi, Pastor - Sunday Services: Adult Worship, Youth Worship, Childcare - 10:00 a.m., Church School - 10:15 a.m., Coffee Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.; Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.; Senior Choir Rehearsal: Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST, WEST SUTTON: Mr. John Olson - Sunday Morning Worship at 9:30 a.m. followed by Coffee Time at 10:30 a.m.; 3rd Tuesday of each month - Women's Association meetings.

MILLBURY BAPTIST: The Rev. Jean M. Greer, Interim Pastor; Mr. Charles H. King, Minister of Music - Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. - Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m. (children leave mid-service for Sunday School); Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m., Discovery Group meets; Thursdays: 7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal - 8:00 p.m., Open Bible Study.

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ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL, Main St., Wilkinsonville: Rev. Walter E. Reynolds; Saturday, 5:30 p.m. - Holy Communion; Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion - 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st-3rd-5th Sunday); Morning Prayer on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Church School - Pre-School - Grade 8

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ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 53 N. Main St., N. Grafton, 839-3453; Vicar, Robert W. Bain, 366-4293: Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Sundays; 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays.

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 88 Main St., South Grafton. Member-Conservative Congregational Christian Conference: Pastor, Rev. Edward L. Marston, Jr.; Sunday Services - Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.; Sunday evening Bible Study and Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

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DEADLINE

The deadline for all submissions to the *Millbury-Sutton Chronicle* is 12:00 noon on Saturday of the week prior to publication.

On Tuesday, December 23, Santa's elves (l. to r.) Sue Charest, Gail Lefferts, Debbie Trepasso, and Rita Shaw prepared food and gift baskets to be distributed to needy families in Sutton. According to "Chief Elf" Evelyn Shaw, Sutton Town Nurse and coordinator of this project, food and gifts were donated from all Sutton churches, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, the Campfire Organization, and the Lions Club.

Santa Claus spent quite a bit of time in the area before he headed back to the North Pole to prepare for Christmas Eve. The youngsters in the top photo received early presents from Santa at the Charles F. Minney Post Christmas Party on Sunday, December 20th. Kindergarten youngsters (bottom photo) at the Elmwood Street School were visited by Santa on Wednesday, December 23rd.

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